



NYA

Newsletter

A quarterly publication of the Nigerian Young Academy (NYA)

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EDITORIAL



As the world is coming to terms with the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic, there has been a setback in academic research and industrial activities, which has left a devastating impact on the global economy. In line with global efforts to resuscitate the devastating effects of COVID-19 pandemic through research, the Nigerian Young Academy (NYA) seeks to draw expertise and contributions from the academia, industry, government, civil society and other relevant stakeholders to brainstorm on how to fast-track progress towards linking research, industry and policy, especially in the emerging post COVID-19 pandemic era.

Guided by the above information, the NYA held her 11th International Conference and General Assembly in August 2021 with the theme "Linking Academic Research, Industry and Policy Engagement Amidst COVID-19 Pandemic." The conference featured keynote speech, induction of new members, conferment of Fellows of the NYA, awards, election of a new NYA executive council and the launching of year book among other important activities. These and more are highlighted in this edition of the NYA Newsletter.

For four days, specifically August 23 – 26, the international conference brought together expertise from the academia and other relevant stakeholders for critical contributions on the paradigm shift in African Biomedical science, cutting edge research for policy in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM), research uptake in the new normal and research-industry-policy linkages to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 in the West African subcontinent. A total of 102 persons including fellows, members, invited guests and authors attended the conference held at the University of Abuja.

The event was supported by funding from South Africa's DSI; Canada's IDRC; the FRQ; the Swedish's Sida; the United Kingdom's FCDO and UKRI; and the SGCI. The academy's fund which is administered through the National Research Foundation (NRF), also played a key role in the just concluded NYA international conference.

On behalf of the Publicity committee of the NYA, I sincerely hope you find this edition of the NYA Newsletter inspiring and educative.

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Publicity Secretary

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2021 NYA CONFERENCE AT A GLANCE: LINKING ACADEMIC RESEARCH, INDUSTRY AND POLICY ENGAGEMENT AMIDST COVID-19 PANDEMIC

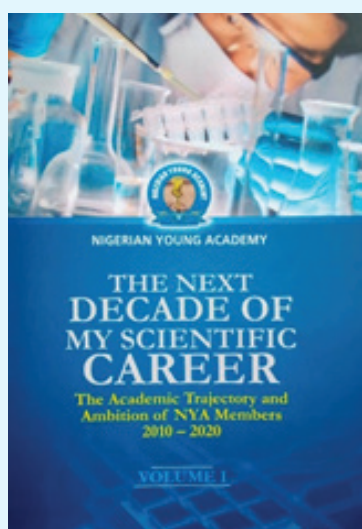


A cross-section of members, new fellows and dignitaries during the 11th NYA international conference opening ceremony at the University of Abuja, Abuja, Nigeria

The 11th NYA international conference and general assembly was the latest in the annual series of conference organised after the inauguration of the Nigerian Young Academy (NYA) on the 30th August, 2010 at the Redeemers University, Mowe. The 10th anniversary was held on 1st December, 2020 at the Nigerian Stored Product Research Institute (NSPRI) Conference Hall, Yaba, Lagos. The conference, themed "Linking Academic Research, Industry and Policy Engagement Amidst COVID-19 Pandemic" held between the 23th and 26th August, 2021 sought to address the challenges and implications of policy-influenced research and productive research engagements to realise the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDGs) and African Union Agenda 2063 goals in Nigeria.

The opening ceremony was addressed by Dr. Abiodun Egbetokun, the president of the NYA, who formally declared the 11th NYA conference open at the end of his speech. In her speech, the President of the Nigerian Academy of Science (NAS), Prof. Ekanem Baride FAS, encouraged the NYA to continue play its role in demonstrating its willingness to address the

challenges in battling COVID-19 and pledged NAS's continuous support to the NYA. The addresses were witnessed by the NYA members, invited guests and representatives of partner organizations. Prof. Abubakar Sani Sambo OON, NPOM, FAS, a former Vice-Chancellor of the Abubakar Tafawa Balewa University, Bauchi and current Dean of the Faculty of Engineering, Usmanu Danfodiyo University, Sokoto, delivered a keynote address on "Linking Academic Research, Industry and Policy Engagement Amidst COVID-19 pandemic." In his address, he encouraged researchers to view themselves as servants of local, national, and global communities through dedication and collaboration. He further emphasised the need for strategic alignment between universities, research institutes, and industry to conduct research that will build a human capital base in transforming the nation. Prof. A.S. Sambo also emphasised the need for collaborative research cutting across all disciplines particularly the arts, humanities, and social sciences in order to implement solutions for the greater good of the nation. He further encouraged NYA to seek external funding due to COVID-19 from industries and other donor agencies.



THE LAUNCH OF THE NYA YEAR BOOK

The NYA, during its 11th General Assembly held at the Consort Luxury Suites launched its First year book to mark the Academy's 10th anniversary. The yearbook titled "The next decade of my scientific career" is a compilation of NYA members and fellows' academic trajectory and ambition since its inception (2010 – 2020).

NYA INDUCTS EIGHTEEN NEW MEMBERS IN ABUJA



A cross-section of new members taking their oath administered by the President of NAS at the opening ceremony of the 2021 NYA international conference held at the University of Abuja, Abuja, Nigeria

In a similar event, The NYA welcomes eighteen (18) new members into the Academy at the opening ceremony of the 11th NYA international conference. The induction of new members was performed by the Presi-

dent of NAS, Prof. Ekanem Braide, FAS. The new members pledged to serve the Academy according to its statutes and bye-laws. Below is a list of the twenty-one new members inducted into the Academy at the event:

S/N	Name	Affiliation
1	Dr Ben J. Enagbonma	University of Benin, Benin City, Nigeria
2	Dr. Gabriel O. Anyanwu	Bingham University, Karu, Nasarawa State, Nigeria
3	Dr Samson Olaniyi	Ladoke Akintola University of Technology, Nigeria
4	Dr. Franklin C. Kenechukwu	University of Nigeria, Nsukka
5	Dr. Kingsley E. Ukhurebor	Edo State University, Uzairue, Edo State, Nigeria
6	Dr. Anjorin, A. Abdulazeez	Lagos State University, Lagos
7	Dr. Oluwakemi Rotimi	Covenant University, Nigeria
8	Dr Isah Yakub Mohammed	Abubakar Tafawa Balewa University, Bauchi
9	Dr. Zaharaddeen Nasiru Garba	Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria
10	Dr. Oluwatoyin T. Fatunsin	University of Lagos, Nigeria
11	Dr. Isaac Lare Animasaun	Federal University of Technology Akure, Nigeria
12	Dr. Nuraddeen Nasiru Garba	Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria
13	Dr. Olaide Olalekan Wahab	Nigerian Army University, Biu, Borno State, Nigeria
14	Dr Olugbemi Tope Olaniyan	Edo State University, Uzairue, Edo State, Nigeria
15	Dr. Ibukun Modupe Adesiyun	Achievers University, Owo, Ondo State
16	Dr. Chukwuebuka E. Umeyor	Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka
17	Dr. Bankole Owolabi Mutolib	Adekunle Ajasin University, Akungba
18	Dr. Abosede Olufunso Olumide	Federal University Otuoke, Nigeria

NYA DECORATES NEW FELLOWS IN GRAND STYLE



Dr. Temitope Elizabeth Odetoje, Dr. Iyekoetin Matthew Omoruyi, Prof. Ekanem Braide, FAS (President, NAS), Dr. Sikiru Olukayode Sanusi, and Dr. Foluke Olayinka Unuabonah (L-R) during the exiting ceremony of the new Fellows of the Academy at the 2021 NYA international conference held in Abuja

At some point in conference opening ceremony, five (5) members of the NYA who have completed the Academy's mandatory five years of membership were conferred with the fellowship award of the NYA (FNYA) by the

President of NAS. The new Fellows were decorated with NYA logo-customized blazers and lapel at the exiting ceremony held in Abuja during the 2021 NYA Conference held at the University of Abuja. The new fellows are:

S/N	Name	Affiliation
1	Dr. Foluke Olayinka Unuabonah	Redeemer's University, Ede, Osun State
2	Dr. Temitope Elizabeth Odetoje	University of Ilorin, Kwara State
3	Dr. Sikiru Olukayode Sanusi	Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria
4	Dr. Iyekoetin Matthew Omoruyi	Benson Idahosa University, Benin City, Edo State

FIVE OUTSTANDING RESEARCHERS WIN NATIONAL YOUNG RESEARCHERS' PRIZES 2021



A cross-section of award winners and dignitaries during the 11th NYA international conference opening ceremony at the University of Abuja, Abuja, Nigeria

The NYA, at its 2021 international conference held in Abuja, awarded five outstanding young researchers with the National Young Researchers' Prizes in Health Sciences, Chemical Sciences and Women in Chemical Sciences, Linguistics, and Geoen-

vironmental Sciences. These prizes were designed to recognize the scientific achievements of outstanding young researchers living and working in Nigeria in respective fields and encourage to continue to strive for excellence in their research. The prize awardees are:

S/No	Award type	Awardee
1	Prof. Friday Okonofua National Young Researchers's prize in Health Sciences	Dr Oluwafemi Ezekiel Kale Olabisi Onabanjo University, Sagamu
2	Prof. Kayode Adebawale National Young Researchers's prize in Chemical Sciences	Dr Collins U. Ibeji University of Nigeria, Nsukka
3	Prof. Kayode Adebawale National Young Researchers's prize for Women in Chemical Sciences	Dr Cynthia Nkolika Ibeto University of Nigeria, Nsukka
4	Prof. Olurotimi Taiwo Prize in Linguistics	Dr Omotayo Ibukun Olalere Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife
5	Prof. Hilary Inyang Prize in Geoenvironmental Sciences	Dr Emmanuel Chukuma Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka

NYA MEMBERS ELECT NEW OFFICERS

The NYA at the 11th General Assembly held at the Consort Luxury Suites, Plot 799 Kaura District, elected new a Executive Council. Ten officers were elected

to direct the affairs of the Academy for a two-year tenure (2021 – 2023) as stipulated in the NYA constitution. The following is the list of the new officers and their portfolios:

S/No	Executive Officer	Office
1	Dr. Mohammed Auwal Ibrahim	President
2	Dr. Temitope Sogbanmu	Vice President
3	Dr. Charles Adetunji	Secretary
4	Dr. Peter Okoli	Assistant Secretary
5	Dr. Oluwaseun Adedokun	Treasurer
6	Dr. Kaisan Usman	Financial Secretary
7	Prof. Idika K. Idika	Technical/Logistics Secretary
8	Dr. Ibrahim Malami	Publicity Secretary
9	Dr. Abiodun Egbetokun	Ex-Officio I
10	Dr. Idowu Kazeem	Ex-Officio II

Elections and Appointments

Prof. Adejuwon Adeneye has been elected as a Foundation Fellow of the Academy of Medicine Specialist of Nigeria. His election was in recognition for his outstanding achievements and exemplary contributions in the field of Medicine. Prof. Adeneye is of the Department of Pharmacology, Therapeutics & Toxicology, Collage of Medicine, Lagos State University. Similarly, Prof. Abiodun Huphrey Adebayo, a fellow of the NYA, has been appointed into the council of Adekunle Ajasin University (AAU), Akungba Akoko. Prof.

Adebayo, the incumbent Vice Chancellor of the Covenant University, Ota, is of the Department of Biochemistry, College of Science and Technology of the Institution.

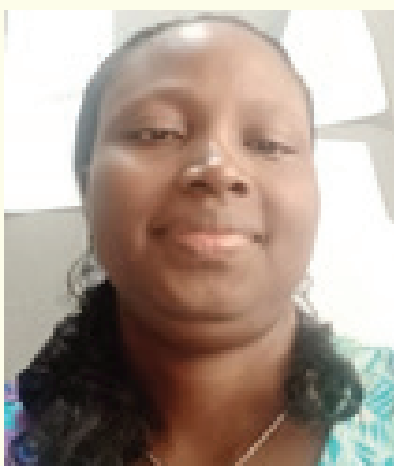
Drs. Oluwabunmi Opeyemi Oyeboode and Uchenna Oyali, two members of NYA have been selected for the 2021 Cohort of the African Humanities Program Postdoctoral Fellowship. Drs. Oyeboode and Oyali are both Senior Lecturer and Lecturer 1 respectively, in the Department of English at Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife and University of Abuja, Abuja respectively.



Prof. Adejuwon Adeneye



Prof. A.H. Adebayo



Dr. O.O. Oyeboode



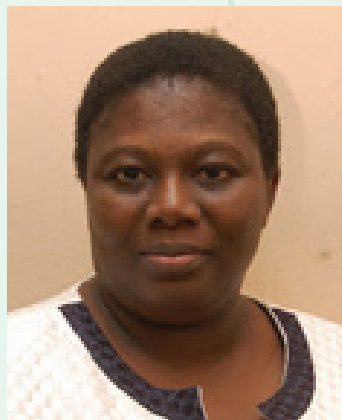
Dr. Uchenna Oyali

Promotions

Dr. Elijah Adebayo promotion to the rank of Associate Professor effective from October 1, 2019 has been announced. Dr. Adebayo is of the Department of Pure and Applied Biology, Ladoke Akintola University of Technology (LAUTECH), Ogbomoso. In a similar development, a newly inducted fellow of the Academy, Dr. Foluke Unuabonah has been promoted to the rank of Associate Professor. Dr. Unuabonah is of the Department of English Studies, Redeemers University, Ede, Osun state. Two other members, Drs. Olúwaseun Adedokun and Olasunkanmi Lukman Olawale were also promoted to the rank of Senior Lecturer of their respective institutions. While Dr. Adedokun of the Department of Pure and Applied Physics, LAUTECH, Ogbomoso, Dr. Olasunkanmi is of the Department of Chemistry, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife.



Dr. Elijah A. Adebayo



Dr. Foluke Unuabonah



Dr. Olúwaseun Adedokun



Dr. Olasunkanmi L. Olawale

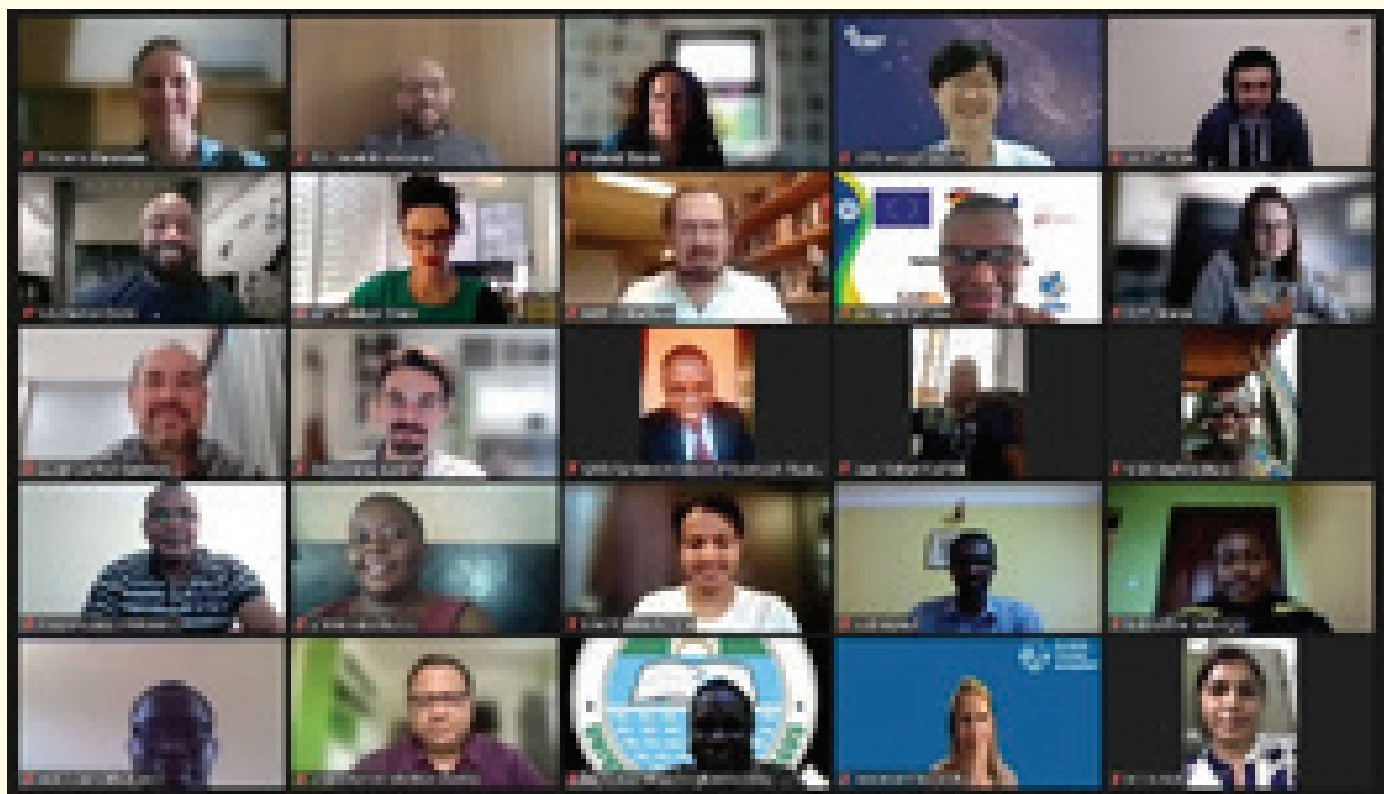


Dr. Damilola Agbalajobi
has featured in

RTAC

To commemorate Nelson Mandela International Day, Dr. Damilola Agbalajobi has been feted in the publication of the Research Technical Assistance Center (RTAC) for fulfilling the humanitarian icon's dream by making the world more equitable through her research and advocacy for policy change. Dr. Agbalajobi, a Fellow of the NYA, is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Political Science at Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife. Her areas of expertise include International Relations, Comparative Politics and Gender Studies

NYA attended the largest-ever online meeting of Young Academies



The online meeting of Young Academies from around the world recorded the largest gathering of young academics, with more than 70 representatives from 50 young academies and initiatives, according to the Global Young Academy (GYA). The meeting, which took place on 30 September 2021 was organised and facilitated by the GYA, and all Young Academies including NYA were invited to contribute to the meeting's agenda. The NYA was represented by its President and Vice President, Dr. Mohammed Auwal Ibrahim and Dr. Temitope Sogbamu, respectively. The meeting offered a great opportunity for young academy representatives to exchange experiences and also discuss successful young academy activities and common challenges.

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS & AWARDS

Fellowships

Royal Society Wolfson Visiting Fellowship 2021 Round Two

The Royal Society Wolfson Visiting Fellowship provides an opportunity for outstanding international research leaders to undertake a flexible 12-month period of sabbatical leave in a UK University or research institution. The fellowship has been designed to foster international collaborative links and enriching scientific research in the host organisation as well as the wider UK science base. The scheme will close at 3.00 p.m. on Wednesday 24 December 2021. For more information on how to apply please visit: <https://royalsociety.org/grants-schemes-awards/grants/royal-society-wolfson-visiting-fellowship/>

New Call for Fellowship Applications 2022-2023

The Polish Institute of Advanced Studies PIASt is pleased to invite applications for its core junior and senior fellowship programme for the 2022-2023 academic year. The Polish Institute of Advanced Studies PIASt Fellowship Programme offers residencies in all research areas of the social sciences and humanities, broadly defined. Fellowships run for the full 10-month period and the 5-month fall semester (October – February) or spring semester (March – July). The deadline for application is 31 October 2021. For more information on how to apply please visit: https://piast.pan.pl/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=709:new-call-for-fellowship-applications-2022-2023&catid=11&Itemid=312&lang=en

IST-BRIDGE: International Postdoctoral Program

The IST-BRIDGE program at IST Austria offers fully funded (two-year) postdoctoral fellowships for highly qualified candidates who have completed or will soon complete their PhD or equivalent in the natural or computer sciences, mathematics or any related discipline. The deadline for application is 05 November 2021. For more information on how to apply please visit: <https://ist.ac.at/en/education/post-docs/ist-bridge/>

Grants & Awards

Welcome Early-Career Awards

This scheme offers funding for early-career researchers from any discipline who are ready to develop their research identity. Through innovative projects, they will deliver shifts in understanding that could improve human life, health and wellbeing. By the end of the award, they will be ready to lead their own independent research programme. Up to £400,000 of research funding is available for five (5) years, but may be less for some disciplines, and longer if held on a part-time basis. Application closes on November 2021. For more information on how to apply please visit: <https://wellcome.org/grant-funding/schemes/early-career-awards>

Welcome Career Development Awards

This scheme offers funding for mid-career researchers from any discipline who have the potential to be international research leaders. They will develop their research capabilities, drive innovative programmes of work and deliver significant shifts in understanding that could improve human life, health and wellbeing. Research funding is available for eight (8) years, but may be less for some disciplines, and longer if held on a part-time basis. Application closes on November 2021. For more information on how to apply please visit: <https://wellcome.org/grant-funding/schemes/career-development-awards>

NAS CORNER

The Nigerian Academy of Science Holds COVID-19 Webinar 4



As part of its efforts towards COVID-19 battles, the Nigerian Academy of Science held its COVID-19 series themed “Variants and Waves of COVID-19 in Nigeria: To be or not to be?” The webinar which was held on 8th September, 2021 discussed the different variants of COVID-19 and its waves. The webinar had Prof. Christian Happi of African Centre of Excellence for Genomics of Infectious Diseases and Prof. Sunday Omilabu of Central Research laboratory, University of Lagos as panelists.

NAS member has been appointed a member of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS)



Prof. Olanike Adeyemo FAS, has been appointed to the membership of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) High-Level Panel of Experts (HLPE) on Food Security and Nutrition Steering Committee. Prof. Adeyemo, the only appointee from the African Continent, is the Academy's representative. She is a Biological Scientist with specialization in Aquatic and Wildlife Disease Epidemiology & Toxicology. She is the Pioneer Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research, Innovation and Strategic Partnerships) at the University of Ibadan, Ibadan. Prof. Adeyemo also heads the Oyo State COVID-19 Decontamination and Containment Committee arm of the Oyo State COVID-19 Taskforce.

NAS organizes 3rd Annual Scientific Conference

The Nigerian Academy of Science (NAS) announces the call for submission of abstracts and participation in the 3rd Annual Scientific Conference, which holds as follows:

Theme: Science and Technology Innovations for National Growth and Development

Sub-themes:

- The Internet Revolution and Nigeria: Innovation Start-ups as Engine for Youth Creativity and Economic Revolution
- Strategies for Sustainable Energy Transition in Nigeria
- Drug Development, Phytomedicine, and Phytotherapy
- Environmental Conservation, Pollution, and Control
- Food Security, Safety, and Sustainability
- Science and Innovation in National Security Management
- Uncovering the Talents in Innovation in Nigerian Universities

Venue: Nigerian Air Force Conference Centre & Suites, Abuja

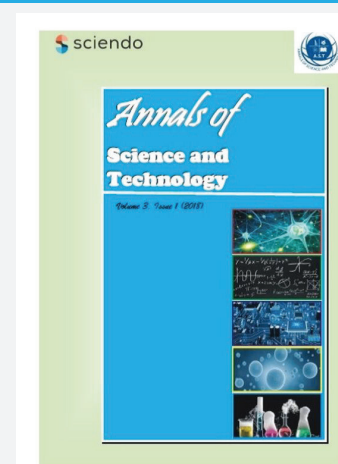
Date: Tuesday 25th, and Wednesday 26th January 2022

Abstract submission: To submit an abstract for the conference, please download and complete the attached abstract submission form.

Participation: There is no registration fee for the 2022 conference. However, pre-registration is required. Kindly fill the registration form at <https://forms.gle/bGs99oJ7TBui3HpS6> to register

Enquiries: For more information, please visit www.nas.org.ng/conference or contact the NAS Secretariat at bonyema@nas.org.ng

AST PLATFORM



Call for submission of manuscripts

The Annals of Science and Technology (AST), a journal of the Nigerian Young Academy (NYA), hereby calls for submission of manuscripts for publication in its next issue.

The journal is indexed and abstracted by many reputable outlets including Google Scholar, EBSCO Discovery Service, J-Gate, ReadCube, Baidu Scholar, CNKI Scholar (China National Knowledge Infrastructure), Naviga (Softweco), KESLI-NDSL (Korean National Discovery for Science Leaders), Naviga (Softweco), Promi Central (ExLibris), Summon (Serial Solutions/ProQuest), TDNet and WorldCat (OCLC). AST publishes both theoretical and experimental high-quality articles twice a year. It publishes research articles, state of the art reviews and short communications in the field of biological, health, chemical, mathematical and physical sciences, as well as engineering and technology. More information on the journal such as submission guidelines can be found in the link below:

<https://content.sciencido.com/view/journals/ast/ast-overview.xml>